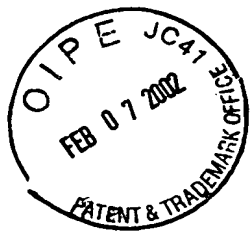


Michael V. Messinger  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 37,575



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **RECEIVED**  
Andrew Chang *et al.* FEB 11 2002  
Appl. No. 09/855,038 Technology Center 2600  
Filed: May 15, 2001  
For: **Backplane Interface Adapter**

Confirmation No. 7958  
Art Unit: 2661  
Examiner: To be assigned  
Atty. Docket: 1988.0060002

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Documents AA1, AB1, AC1, AD1, AE1 are commonly-owned, co-pending related applications.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not

be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
  - ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
  - ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated

in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. Attached is our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
  - ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
  - ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☐ 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☐ 6. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C.

§ 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

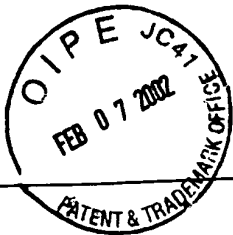
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael V. Messinger".

Michael V. Messinger  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 37,575

Date: February 7, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600



FORM PTO-1449

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
1998.0060002APPLICATION NO.  
09/855,038APPLICANT  
Andrew Chang et al.FILING DATE  
May 15, 2001GROUP  
2661

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	09/855,031		Andrew Chang et al.			May 15, 2001
	AB1	09/855,024		Andrew Chang et al.			May 15, 2001
	AC1	09/855,025		Andrew Chang et al.			May 15, 2001
	AD1	09/855,015		Andrew Chang et al.			May 15, 2001
	AE1	09/988,066		Ronak Patel et al.			Nov. 16, 2001
	AF1						
	AG1						
	AH1						
	AI1						
	AJ1						
	AK1						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1						Yes No
	AM1						Yes No
	AN1						Yes No
	AO1						Yes No
	AP1						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	1	CHARLES E. SPURGEON, "Ethernet, The definitive guide", Entire book, Published by: O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., Sebastopol, CA, 02/2000.
	AS	1	
	AT	1	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.